

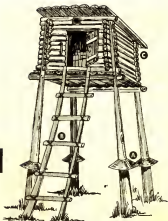
A DELL COMIC
DELL
A DELL COMIC
NO. 373

10¢

Sergeant **PRESTON** **OF THE YUKON**



AN ALASKAN CACHE



The woodsman in Alaska is often forced to lay up large amounts of food or furs for future use. In this country, where large bears and many small animals such as ground squirrels and rats swarm, he must make a permanent cabin high above the ground.

The right to caches is respected by all woodmen but in times of very great need, they provide a store that can be used by a starving man. This one is a miniature log cabin built high above the ground to protect it from bears and heavier animals. Sheet metal pest guards protect it against squirrels and other climbing pests. Cement makes the best chinking where logs do not meet exactly.



A Sheet aluminum or copper sheathing make the best pest guards as they do not rust. Fasten with rivets.



B Build a good strong ladder by ratching and tying the rungs. Don't use rawhide as rats will eat it away.



C Each log must be notched twice to receive the log above and below it. Fill open chinks with cement.

Sergeant PRESTON

IN UNDERCOVER

SERGEANT PRESTON
HAS BEEN SUMMONED
TO INSPECTOR CORBAG'S
OFFICE ON URGENT
BUSINESS —

WE'VE FINALLY GOT A LEAD
ON THE ROGER MORTON
KILLING, SERGEANT, AND I
WANT YOU TO HANDLE IT
FROM HERE!

FINE, INSPECTOR?
WHAT'S THE SQUAT?

A MAN NAMED ROY CHASE
WAS BRAGGING IN THE
DUNSMON BAR LAST NIGHT!
HE CLAIMS TO KNOW WHO
THE KILLER IS! HE SAYS THAT HE'S GOING
TO BRAGGART TO CLAIM PART OF THE FIFTY
THOUSAND IN GOLD THAT WAS STOLEN! I
WANT YOU TO BRING HIM IN FOR
QUESTIONING!

ARE YOU SURE
THAT'S THE RIGHT
APPROACH, INSPECTOR?

WY, WHAT
DO YOU MEAN,
SERGEANT?

I HARDLY THINK HE'D TELL US
ANYTHING! I'D LIKE TO FOLLOW
HIM TO GRADWAY! I KNOW IT'S IN
AMERICAN TERRITORY, BUT I
COULD WORK UNDERCOVER —

AND I KNOW WE CAN
COUNT ON THE US MARINES.
FOR ANY HELP THAT'S
NEEDED!

DANGEROUS BUSINESS,
SERGEANT, BUT GO TO
IT! I'LL SEND A LETTER
TO CAPTAIN HARK OF
THE MARINES IN GRADWAY!
YOU CAN LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!

A WEEK LATER, SERGEANT PRESTON, DISGUISED, SITS
IN THE THREE HUNDRED SALOON IN GRADWAY,
ALASKA.

A WHOLE WEEK AND CHASE HADN'T MADE A
DECISIVE MOVE! MAYBE IF I CAN GET SKIPPER
AMES TO--- AH, HERE HE COMES NOW! CHASE
WAS TALKING TO HIM---



FOR CRYING OUT LOUD! SERGEANT PRESTON! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THAT HOLE HERE IN AMERICAN TERRITORY? I ALMOST DON'T RECOGNIZE YOU!

I'M WORKING UNDERCOVER, SKIPPER! MY NEW NAME IS FORTY-MILE BILL!



HE WANTED TO BOOK PASSAGE TO THE STATES! WHEN I TOLD HIM I WASN'T GOING IN THAT DIRECTION, HE WANTED TO GO ANYWAY! BUT THE ARCTIC GUARD DOESN'T CARRY PASSENGERS ---

HE JUST WANTS TO GET OUT OF TOWN! DID HE ONLY WANT ONE PASSAGE?



TOMORROW NIGHT AT MIDNIGHT! THAT MEANS I HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO, SO I'LL SAY GOOD NIGHT, SERGE--- ER--- BILL!

GOOD NIGHT, SKIPPER! SEE YOU LATER!



I NOTICED YOU WATCHING WHEN I WAS TALKING TO THAT FELLOW AT THE BAR! IS HE TIED UP IN THIS DEAL?

YEAH! HIS NAME'S ROY CHASE! I'VE BEEN WATCHING HIM FOR A WEEK! WHAT WAS HE AFTER?



OH, NO, HE WANTED PASSAGE FOR TWO!

THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR! WHAT TIME DO YOU SAID? --- AND WHEN?



THEY CALL YOU FORTY-MILE BILL, DON'T THEY?

SOME DO! WHAT'S YOUR PITCH?





I SEE CAPTAIN HARK IS A FRIEND OF YOURS? I TRIED TO BOOK PASSAGE ON HIS SHIP BUT GOT TURNED DOWN!

THAT'S HIS BUSINESS, NOT MINE!



YEAH, I KNOW! BUT I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU COULD CHANGE HIS MIND! THERE WOULD BE A PIECE OF CHANGE IN IT FOR YOU!

MONEY TALKS AWFUL LOUD! HOW MUCH?



THERE ARE TWO OF US AND WE'D PAY FIVE HUNDRED FOR THE TRIP! SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO? I'LL MEET YOU HERE TOMORROW AFTERNOON!

FIVE HUNDRED IS A LOT OF CASH! I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO— I'LL SEE YOU, AFTER I'VE TALKED TO THE SKIPPER!



LATER, SERGEANT PRESTON AND HIS DOBLYDON KID, CALL ON CAPTAIN HARK OF THE MARINES.

THIS MAY BE THE BREAK WE NEED, KID! NOW'S THE TIME TO TALK TO CAPTAIN HARK!

COME ON!



CAPTAIN HARK, I'M SERGEANT PRESTON OF THE MOUNTIES! THIS SHOULD IDENTIFY ME!

AH, YES, SERGEANT, I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU FOR A WEEK! SIT DOWN!



I'VE BEEN IN TOWN FOR A WEEK, KEEPING AN EYE ON ROY CHASE! I DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE A CHANCE ON GIVING MY HAND AWAY TOO SOON!

GOOD IDEA! INSPECTOR CONRAD GAVE ME ALL THE DETAILS IN HIS LETTER! WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO DO?



EVIDENTLY CHASE HAS MADE SOME CONTACT WITH THE MURDERER! IN FACT, HE'S TRYING TO FIX IT FOR HIM TO GET OUT OF THE COUNTRY TOMORROW NIGHT—ON THE ARCTIC QUEEN!

AND YOU WANT ME TO ARREST THE MURDERER?



WELL—I STILL DON'T KNOW WHO THE MURDERER IS! BUT BY THIS TIME TOMORROW NIGHT, I MAY, AND WHEN I ASK YOUR HELP, I'LL NEED IT FAST! I'LL BLOW THAT WHISTLE, OR IF I'M TOO FAR AWAY, I'LL SEND KING!

THE COSE?



TEST KING KNOWS WHAT TO DO! JUST FOLLOW HIM! TOMORROW MORNING I'LL SEE THE SKIPPER AND ARRANGE EVERYTHING, THEN I'LL FOLLOW THROUGH WITH MY PLAN!

ALL RIGHT, SERGEANT, WE'LL BE WAITING! GOOD LUCK!



NEXT AFTERNOON, FOLLOWING HIS VISIT TO THE ARCTIC QUEEN, PRESTON MEETS ROY CHASE IN THE SAFE...

WELL, BILL, HOW'D YOU MAKE OUT?

IT'S ALL SET! NOW ABOUT YOUR END OF THE BARGAIN?



OH—THE MONEY? WELL—I DON'T HAVE IT ON ME RIGHT NOW!

I WAS AFRAID OF THAT! THE SKIPPER'S GOING THIS AS A PERSONAL FAVOR, AND JUST TO MAKE SURE I GET PAID OFF, HE DOESN'T TAKE YOU ON BOARD UNTIL I SAY THE WORD!



LOOK, BILL, I HAVE TO GO
TO OYEA TO GET THE MONEY
AND MY FRIEND! IT'S ONLY
A FEW MILES!

I'VE GOT A TEAM! I'LL RUN
YOU DOWN THERE AND BACK
FOR AN EXTRA HUNDRED!



YOU GOT A DEAL? MEET ME HERE AFTER DARK,
AND IF YOU HAVE A GUN, CARRY IT! ME AND MY
FRIENDS WILL HAVE A LOT OF MONEY!

RIGHT! I'LL GET
MY TEAM READY!



THAT NIGHT SERGEANT PRESTON AND ROY CHASE
ARRIVE IN OYEA . .

I'LL BE OUT IN A MINUTE
WITH MY FRIEND!

OKAY, BUT SPEED
IT UP! WE'RE TO BE
BACK IN SNAWWAY BY
ELEVEN! THAT GIVES
US THREE HOURS!



WE'LL GET YOU FREE FOR ACTION, KIDS ---
JUST IN CASE! STAY HERE WITH THE TEAM
WHILE I FOLLOW CHASE!

ARR! ARR!



CHASE MAY BE HEADING FOR
TROUBLE! BLACKMAILERS
AREN'T VERY POPULAR WITH
THEIR TRICKS --- A SHOT!

UN-ON!





THE HOUSE LIES IN SNOW...
THE HOUSE LIES IN SNOW...

WHO, HUSKES, WHO?

IS THIS THE PLACE?



YES! GO RIGHT THROUGH THE WAREHOUSE AND ONTO THE PIER! I'LL SIGNAL THE SKIPPER FROM THERE! WANT ANY HELP WITH THAT BOSS SEEMS HEAVY!

NEVER MIND THAT! JUST GET YOUR SIGNAL LIGHT READY!



NO LIGHT! THE SIGNAL THE SKIPPER AND I AGREED ON WAS THREE BLASTS ON THIS WHISTLE!

AH TANK!

TWENTY PACEES!
TWENTY!



HEY, LEMME SEE THAT WHISTLE!

SURE, WHY NOT?



IT'S A MOUNTIE'S WHISTLE!

HOW'D YOU GET THIS?

HOW'D YOU HAPPEN TO GET FIFTY THOUSAND IN GOLD?





COMING BACK FROM A PATROL, ALONG THE BANKS OF THE ELDOGYKE, SERGEANT PRESTON OVERTAKES A FRIEND



BOB LEYDEN! HELLO,
THERE, YOUNG FELLOW

SERGEANT PRESTON!
HELLO, YOURSELF!

Sergeant PRESTON

IN
THE WRONG MAP

YOU'VE BEEN
TRAVELING PRETTY
FAR AND FAST, BOB!
ANY TROUBLE?

JUST THE OPPOSITE, SERGEANT.
I'VE STRUCK IT RICH--- I'M
HEADING FOR DANSON CITY
TO GET BACKING FOR A BIG
MINING VENTURE!



YOU KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT
VALUABLE ORES TO
RECOGNIZE THESE
SAMPLES? DO YOU
THINK OLD B.J. SUMMERS
WOULD BACK A MAN
WHO CAN SHOW STUFF
LIKE THIS--- AND A
MAP, OF COURSE?

WHEN? IF THEY'RE AS
GOOD AS THEY LOOK TO
ME, I'D THINK HIM FOOLISH
NOT TO BACK YOU! BUT I
HAD A NOTION THAT YOU
DIDN'T GET ON WELL WITH
OLD B.J.



THAT WAS ONLY BECAUSE HE DIDN'T LIKE THE IDEA
OF A PERHELSS YOUNG MINING ENGINEER SPARKING
HIS PRECIOUS DAUGHTER! HE'D RATHER SEE
HELEN MARRIED TO A MAN OF SUBSTANCE---
LIKE HIS OWN SUPERVISOR FRANK FALMER, BUT
THIS COULD MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE!



ON REACHING DANSON AND MOUNTED POLICE
HEADQUARTERS...

TAKE MY ADVICE, DON'T
SHOW THOSE SAMPLES
TO ANYONE ELSE!

I'M NOT THAT FOOLISH!
SO LONG, SERGEANT!



AFTER A QUICK CLEANUP AT HIS HOTEL, BOB
HEADS FOR THE SUMMERS RESIDENCE ...

HELLO, HELEN!

HOW EASY? COME
IN--- QUICK! YOU'VE
MET FRANK PALMER,
I THINK.

WE'VE MET? NOW
ARE YOU PALMER?

STILL CHASING
RAINBOWS, LEYDENT
OR DO YOU CALL IT
PROSPECTING?

FRANK PALMER WOULDN'T
BE INTERESTED, HELEN---
BUT I'VE FOUND A PRETTY
BIG POT OF GOLD AT THE
END OF THIS LAST "RAINBOW"!
I'VE MADE A NIGHTY RICH
STRIKE!

BOB? YOU'RE
SCROODY? DIN'T
THAT'S
WONDERFUL!

SIT DOWN AND TELL
ME ABOUT IT, PLEASE!
YOU'VE GOT SAMPLES---
AND A MAP? SAD WILL
BE HOME TOMORROW,
AND YOU MUST
SHOW HIM!

THAT'S WHAT I'M
PLANNING TO DO.
HELEN? NOBODY ELSE
GETS A PEER AT THE
MAP OR SAMPLES TELL I
TALK WITH SA!

OH, FRANK---YOU'RE
NOT GOING? I WANT
BOTH YOU AND BOB
TO STAY TO DINNER!

THANKS A MILLION,
HELEN? BUT I HAVE
A BUSINESS APPOINTMENT
THAT CAN'T POSSIBLY
BE PUT OFF!

GOOD-BYE---AND DON'T
BE ANGRY WITH ME,
PLEASE!

I'M NOT ANGRY,
FRANK--- JUST
DISAPPOINTED!
GOOD-BYE!

ON LEAVING REVER SUMMERS' HOUSE, FRANK PALMER RUSHES TO THE CAFE OWNED BY CURT HUMMEL—WHOSE "DEALS" EMBRACE A LOT MORE THAN THE CAFE BUSINESS...



THAT YOUNG SQUIRT, BOB LEYDEN, HAS STRUCK IT RICH---JUST HIT TOWN WITH SAMPLES AND A MAP THAT HE'LL SHOW ONLY TO B J SUMMERS! YOU WANT TO GET IN ON IT, CURT?



ROOM 214---I MADE SURE ON MY WAY HERE! IF THE JOB PANS OUT, REMEMBER OUR AGREEMENT, FIFTY-FIFTY SHARE OF THE PROFITS.

UH-HUH! EASY TO GET A LOOK AT SAMPLES AND MAP...I'LL SEND A COUPLE OF MY STRONG ARM BOYS TO LEYDEN'S ROOM TONIGHT---PETE HARRIS AND SNUFFY COYLE.



THAT NIGHT IN THE SMALL HOURS, CURT'S TWO "BOYS" PICK THE LOCK OF BOB LEYDEN'S HOTEL ROOM...



HUH---WHO--- WHO'S THAT?

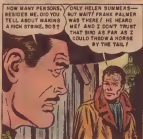
OHAY--- PUT HIM TO SLEEP!



HEY? I DIDN'T MEAN FOR JEEPS!

WHO CAN...





HMMMM! IT'S POSSIBLE, OF COURSE, THAT PALMER IS BEHIND THIS THEFT--IN WHICH CASE, HE'S DOUBLE-CROSSING HIS EMPLOYER, B. J. SUMMERS! ONE WAY TO FIND OUT WOULD BE FOR YOU TO DRAW ANOTHER MAP FROM MEMORY, AND...



YOU SAY YOU FOUND A WIDE VEIN OF GOLD-BEARING ORE THAT YOU THINK WOULD RUN AT LEAST THIRTY PERCENT GOLD? HAVE YOU SAMPLES TO SHOW ME, LEYDEN?

NO, SIR--NOT WITH ME! THEY WERE STOLEN FROM MY HOTEL ROOM LAST NIGHT--



THAT'S TOO BAD, LEYDEN--IF THERE WERE ANY SAMPLES, I SUPPOSE YOU HAD A MAP, SHOWING THE LOCATION, AND IT WAS STOLEN, TOO?

YES--AND THAT'S WHERE THE LOSS IS GOING TO BE ON THE THUNDER!

STOLEN!



AS A MATTER OF FACT, THEY STOLE A MAP YOU SEE, I MADE TWO MAPS. THE OTHER ONE IS IN SAFEGUARDING. I WISH I HAD BEEN AS CAREFUL WITH THE SAMPLES OF ORE.



I WISH YOU'D BEEN MORE CAREFUL WITH THEM, TOO, LEYDEN! HOWEVER I MAY DECIDE TO MAKE A TENTATIVE DEAL WITH YOU ON THE STRENGTH OF THIS TRUE MAP. I'LL THINK IT OVER! BRING YOUR MAP AROUND TOMORROW, AT THIS SAME TIME!

THANK YOU, SIR! I'LL BE HERE WITHOUT FAIL!



BY THE WAY, SIR, I'LL BE SEEING YOU SOONER BUT NOT ON BUSINESS! HELEN HAS ASKED ME TO DINNER TONIGHT.



THAT NOON SEES FRANK PALMER HURRYING TOWARD THE CAFE OWNED BY CURT HUMMEL ..



BAD NEWS, CURT? THE MAP YOUR BOYS TOOK WITH LEYDEN'S SAMPLES WAS A FAKE?

WHAT? HOW DO YOU KNOW?



LEYDEN WAS TELLING B. J. THIS MORNING HE'S GOT THE REAL MAP IN SAFEKEEPING. SUMMERS IS THINKING OF BACKING HIM ON THE STRENGTH OF THE TRUE MAP WHICH HE'LL STUDY TOMORROW.

HE WON'T GET TO SEE IT! WE'LL TAKE IT FROM LEYDEN NO MATTER WHERE HE'S GOT IT NO?



LATER THAT EVENING ..

GOOD NIGHT, HELD IT WAS GREAT—BEING WITH YOU—NOT TO MENTION THE DINNER!

GOOD NIGHT, BOB! I KNOW THAT DAD HAS ABOUT DECIDED TO TAKE YOUR WORD FOR THOSE MISSING SAMPLES—HE'S IN A VERY GOOD HUMOR TONIGHT!



AND BOB LEYDEN IS IN A VERY GOOD HUMOR, TOO, AS HE WALKS TO HIS HOTEL ALONG THE DIMLY-LIGHTED STREET...



















HOURS LATER, AND MANY MILES AWAY, ON THE SHORE OF FROZEN CARBOU LAKE, TRAODEN BEN BYRS STOKES HIS STOVE TO WARM HIS MAIN ROOM FOR EARLY CUSTOMERS.



AS GREY DAWN BREAKS...

HERE COME TWO GENTS ON SNOWSHOES— WITHOUT PAGES OF ADVERT. MAYBE THEY HAD AN ACCIDENT.



HULLO!

WE'RE HUNGRY! GET US SOME HOT GRUB, TRAODEN—

—IN A HURRY, TOO!



BEANS AND BACON WILL BE THE QUICKEST, BUT YOU'D BETTER PUT YOUR SNOWSHOES OUTSIDE— OR THEY'LL COLLECT A WEIGHT OF SNOW IN THE WIND WHEN YOU START TO USE 'EM.



GET THAT GRUB—AND KEEP YOUR ADVICE TO YOURSELF, MISTER! UNDERSTAND?

OH—YES! I'LL HURRY!



I HEARD YOUR OGS YAPPIN' OUT BACK, TRAODEN. WHAT'LL YOU TAKE FOR 'EM?

WHY—UH— THEY'RE NOT FOR SALE! THEY'RE MY PETS— I RAISED ALL SIX OF THEM MYSELF.







TOO WORRIED TO WAIT LONGER, KING SITES THE SPECIALLY-MADE SHAP THAT ATTACHES HIS HARNESS TO THE TEAM'S...AND OPENS IT! A TRICK TAUGHT HIM BY SERGEANT PRESTON!



KNOBS AND LATCHES ARE NO MYSTERY TO THE GREAT DOG OF THE TUXON...





I COULD SIGNAL THE VILLAGE WITH MY WHISTLE---
ONLY THAT, TOO, WOULD WARN THE KILLERS. BUT
A DOG HOWLING--- THAT'S THE TRICK! I'VE TAUGHT
HIM TO YIP OR WOLF WHEN I SQUEEZE HIS EAR!



WE'RE JUST ACROSS
THE LAKE FROM THE
VILLAGE NOW. ALL RIGHT,
KING--- LET'S GIVE
THE MORSE CODE FOR
P-R-O-B-A-B-L-Y!

Owww-YIP-Owww?
YIP-YIP-Owww! YIP-
Owww-YIP-YIP! YIP-
Owww! Owww-YIP-
Owww!



Oh-oooo-oh!

THAT'S KULAK'S WOLF HOWL--- SPELLING
P FOR POKERY! HE'S CAUGHT ON ALREADY!
NOW WE'LL TELL HIM TO HAVE ANOTHER
HEAD OFF THOSE ROSSERS!



CLEARLY KING'S MESSAGE RINGS ACROSS THE
FROZEN WASTE: "TWO FELLERS SQUEALING LATE TO
MY TEAM! HEAD THEM OFF!"

Owww! YIP-Owww-Owww! Owww-Owww-
Owww! Owww-YIP-Owww! YIP-YIP! YIP-
Owww-YIP-YIP! YIP-Owww-YIP-YIP!



HEY! LISTEN TO THOSE
WOLVES. RAPE! SOUNDS
LIKE THEY'RE CALLING
THE PACK TO TRAIL US!

YOU'RE CRAZY! THE
ONE THAT'S GOIN'
MOST OF THAT
YAMMERIN' IS A
MUSKY--- GONE MAD
OR SOMETHIN' MUSKY!



I'M ALL IN--- BUT,
PUFFIN' BUNTS---
REST ANWHILE!

KEEP GOIN'!
WE'LL REST WHEN
WE HIT THE HAND-
PACKED TRAIL TO
FORTY MILE!







BY CHANCE OR BY GOOD SHOOTING, A BULLET CUTS THE TEAM'S TRACE...



BUT THE UNSURE DEFENSEMEN FOLLOW, HERDING THE TWO CRIMINALS BACK TOWARD THE TRADING POST...



